

September/October 2009

NARFE PORT ORCHARD CHAPTER 888

Art Haywood, President

Mary DeLaGrange, Publicity

Mike Kaaland, 1st Vice President

Virginia Julian, Travel & Reception

Nancy Johnson, 2nd Vice President

Bill Chaussee, Reception

Stu Higgs, Secretary

Enos Bryant, SGT AT ARMS

Suzanne Rueter, Treasurer

Helen Ristvet, Alzheimer's Chair

Bob Mueller, Legislative, NARFE-PAC

Sally Ann McCluskey, Decorations

John Smith, Programs Manager

Bob Edwards, District IV Webmaster

Helen Higgs, Chaplain

Bill Powers, District IV Vice Pres

Don Podraza, Membership

District IV/Chapter 888 website:

www.narfewadist4.org/ch888.html

Carol Bailey, Service Officer

NARFE HOTLINE (TF) 1-877-217-8234

www.narfe.org

Elaine Haywood, Newsletter Editor

Chapter Meetings are held at **11:30 am** on the **2nd Tuesday** of the month at the **EAGLES LODGE**,
4001 Jackson Rd in Port Orchard (**Potluck lunch**)

September 8, 2009 – Speaker: LARY COPPOLA, Mayor of Port Orchard

October 13, 2009 – Annual Birthday Luncheon, 11:30am at the **CHINA SUN**,
4331 Bethel Rd, Port Orchard -- **Speaker: LANNY ROSS, NARFE Region IX Vice President**

November 10, 2009 – Speaker: DEREK KILMER, Washington State Senator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Our plans to meet with our Congressional representatives during the August break were frustrated by the overriding attention and effort being given to the Health Care issue. We should all watch closely for the outcome and be prepared to contact our representatives if we feel the need for changes to the final Health Care legislation.

Pay particular attention to the following comments by Secretary Stu Higgs regarding voting for NARFE National Dues Referendum.

In the next few months, we will be nominating Chapter 888 officers for 2010. Anyone with a desire to serve should contact me or any of the Chapter 888 officers. We are always open to new ideas for the conduct of Chapter 888 business.

We're looking forward to the **October Birthday Luncheon at the CHINA SUN RESTAURANT** -- see above for address. (Angel's Restaurant in Bremerton is no longer available to us because it has closed.) We look forward to seeing you at the Eagles Lodge in September and the China Sun in October!!!

Art Haywood

SECRETARY

Note that it is extremely important that everyone vote on the NARFE National Dues Referendum.

NARFE Chapter 888 members can vote either by attending the regular chapter meeting OR by mailing in the Special Voter's Coupon on page 36 of the August 2009 issue of the NARFE magazine. Mail votes to Chapter President Art Haywood 1904 Valley Ave. E, Port Orchard, WA 98366. At the August chapter meeting the WSF Treasurer, Rex Tauscher, explained that the Washington State Federation would be phasing out the per capita tax if the National Dues Referendum passes; thus leaving the amount of Chapter 888 operating funds at the present level.

Stu Higgs

PROGRAMS MANAGER

Sometimes it is difficult to get programs to suit the needs of everyone and have a program that everyone will enjoy. If you refrain from coming to the NARFE Meetings because the programs don't interest you, then send me your suggestions at 360-792-2626 or email me at john7smith@comcast.net.

John Smith

DISTRICT IV VICE PRESIDENT

Bremerton Chapter 181 has implemented a Kitsap Transit bus advertising campaign. There are now two queen size bus exterior displays (25" x 86") traveling around "kitsapland" that say: "FEDERAL EMPLOYEES: Laws can change, so can your Retirement". It also includes National's website, the National toll free number and "PROTECT IT NOW!" There are also twenty interior bus overhead panel displays (9" x 17") that say: "FEDERAL EMPLOYEES: Don't let Congress target your retirement. Secure your earned retirement. Join NARFE today!" These advertisements will run through June 15, 2010. They cost \$2,555, 50% paid by National and 50% by Bremerton Chapter 181 (Poulsbo & Port Orchard chapters each contributed \$100). If you happen to see one of these displays, drop me a line and let me know how you liked the display.

Bill Powers

TREASURER

Due to financial concerns now and for the New Year, I will be holding a Budget Meeting at my home on Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009 for the next year (2010). It is NOT too early to plan now so we will be prepared should the Referendum be adopted. All members in good standing are invited to be on the committee. At our membership meeting Sept. 8th, 2009 I will be asking for your commitment.

Suzanne Rueter

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Port Orchard Chapter 888 is around 445. Keep up the good work! Recruiting new members is crucial!

Look for appropriate times to recruit qualifying friends and acquaintances into our chapter. This includes retired and currently employed Federal personnel. Don't forget—spouses of current members qualify to join! Sign your spouse up today!!

MAGAZINES:

After you finish reading your monthly NARFE magazine, give it to another retired or active federal employee. This is a great way to introduce them to NARFE. Also, if you're not good with words, the magazine speaks for itself. You might even show them the application form-- there's one in every issue. I try to keep a magazine in the car. That way I'm ready if I meet a qualifying candidate when I'm out and about.

CONSIDER THIS: The message from NARFE Headquarters is clear. There is an organized group in Congress that is after your earned benefits and your health insurance premiums. NARFE membership is your best insurance against eroding benefits! You may never regain the benefits you lose. Stay the course and keep recruiting new members to NARFE! I'm always available to answer questions about membership. Give me a call at 360-876-1100.

Don Podraza

The **AUGUST PICNIC** was enjoyed by all



If you weren't there, you missed a great meal and a serenade by **The Kitsap Chordsmen** (Barbershop Quartet) that took us down memory lane. Above, Suzanne Rueter grills the hamburgers while Art Haywood and Bill Chaussee (in the smoke) offer words of "encouragement?"

CHAPLAIN

If anyone knows of a sick member or a member's death, please call me at 674-2424.

Helen Higgs

NARFE-PAC

Support the efforts of NARFE to preserve our benefits by contributing to NARFE-PAC and contacting your Legislators about current legislation being considered.

Senator Maria Cantwell

Website: www.cantwell.senate.gov

The Commerce Building
950 Pacific Ave, Suite 615, Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone: 253-572-2281; Fax: 253-572-5879.

Senator Patty Murray

Website: www.murray.senate.gov

The Commerce Building
950 Pacific Ave, Suite 650, Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone: 253-572-3636; Fax: 253-572-9488.

Representative Norm Dicks

Website: www.house.gov/dicks

345 6th St, Ste 500, Bremerton, WA 98337
Phone: 360-479-4011; Fax: 360-479-2126.

Bob Mueller

ALZHEIMER'S

We have \$73.48 in the Chapter 888 Alzheimer's Fund. Deanna Niesen turned in an Alzheimer's can of collected coins in the amount of \$39.17. Then she took the can to be refilled. Thanks, Deanna!!!

Remember to stay healthy: use your brain, exercise, and eat your veggies. Mother Nature helps us by color coding fruits and vegetables into five colors: white, red, green, orange and blue/black. If you eat all five colors daily, you will stay healthy. Each color has a different vitamin that we need. Juice in the morning and a salad loaded with veggies during the day should contain all of the necessary colors.

Helen Ristvet

EDITOR'S NOTE: The next newsletter will be issued in **November 2009**. Items for publication in the **November/December** newsletter must be in the hands of the editor by the **20th of October 2009**. I can be reached at 1904 Valley Ave E, Port Orchard, WA 98366, 360-769-9670; email: elainhay@aol.com. **PLEASE notify me if you have a change of address including change of zip code** or if you will be temporarily away

THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE CHANGED THE DELIVERY OF THEIR NEWSLETTER TO EMAIL. If you would like this service, please advise by sending me an email. **Each e-mail newsletter saves the chapter printing & mailing costs.**